

1.1 Overview

This Scoping Report documents the public scoping process of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as it initiates the resource management planning and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) processes for the California Coastal National Monument (CCNM). BLM will publish a resource management plan (RMP) and supporting environmental impact statement (EIS) as the final products of the planning and environmental review processes.

The Scoping Report includes:

- a statement of the RMP purpose and need,
- a summary of the public scoping process,
- a summary of coordination with other agencies and Native American groups,
- a listing of the major issues to be addressed in the RMP,
- the planning criteria used to focus the RMP,
- a summary of available data for the planning area, and
- a description of future steps in the planning and environmental review processes.

The comments received from the public and the issues identified in the scoping process will be used to develop RMP alternatives to be analyzed in the EIS and ultimately to guide development of the RMP.

1.2 Purpose and Need for the RMP

Although the California coast has long been recognized as a biological treasure, there has been little to no management direction provided through the planning process to date. Current management of the coastline and offshore areas is a complex web of federal, tribal, state, local, and private jurisdictions. With few exceptions, most of the ocean planning, coordination, and research efforts

continue to be pursued on a single-purpose basis rather than in the context of a comprehensive management regime for the California coast in its entirety.

The purpose of the California CCNM RMP will be to establish guidance, objectives, policies, and management actions for the lands of the CCNM. The RMP, being prepared by BLM, will be comprehensive in nature and will address and attempt to resolve issues within the CCNM area. The document will attempt to address and integrate, where possible and in a holistic manner, the numerous related management issues of the various coastal partners who desire to be included in the planning effort.

In addition to the purposes described above, the RMP will also fulfill the needs and obligations of BLM as set forth by the Presidential proclamation establishing the monument, NEPA, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), and the BLM Land Use Plan Policy.

1.3 Planning Area

The planning area includes all unappropriated or unreserved lands and interests in lands owned or controlled by the United States in the form of islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles above mean high tide within 12 nautical miles of shoreline of the State of California, between the Oregon and Mexican borders. This area includes roughly 11,507 islands totaling approximately 883 acres along 1,100 miles of coastline. The general location of the CCNM is shown in Figure 1.

1.4 Scoping Process

Notice of Intent

A Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an RMP for the CCNM was published in the Federal Register on April 24, 2002. The full text of the NOI appears in Appendix A. A notice announcing the time and location of the eight initial public scoping meetings was mailed in early August 2002 to more than 450 individuals, organizations, and government agencies. In addition, a news release announcing the time and location of the meetings was sent to approximately 500 media outlets for the 15 California coastal counties. The public scoping period lasted from April 24, 2002, through October 25, 2003.

Public Scoping Meetings

Public scoping meetings were held in Bodega Bay, Elk, Trinidad, San Diego, Laguna Beach, Santa Barbara, Monterey, and San Francisco, California. Each meeting had a “local host.” The local hosts were local organizations that served



California Coastal National Monument

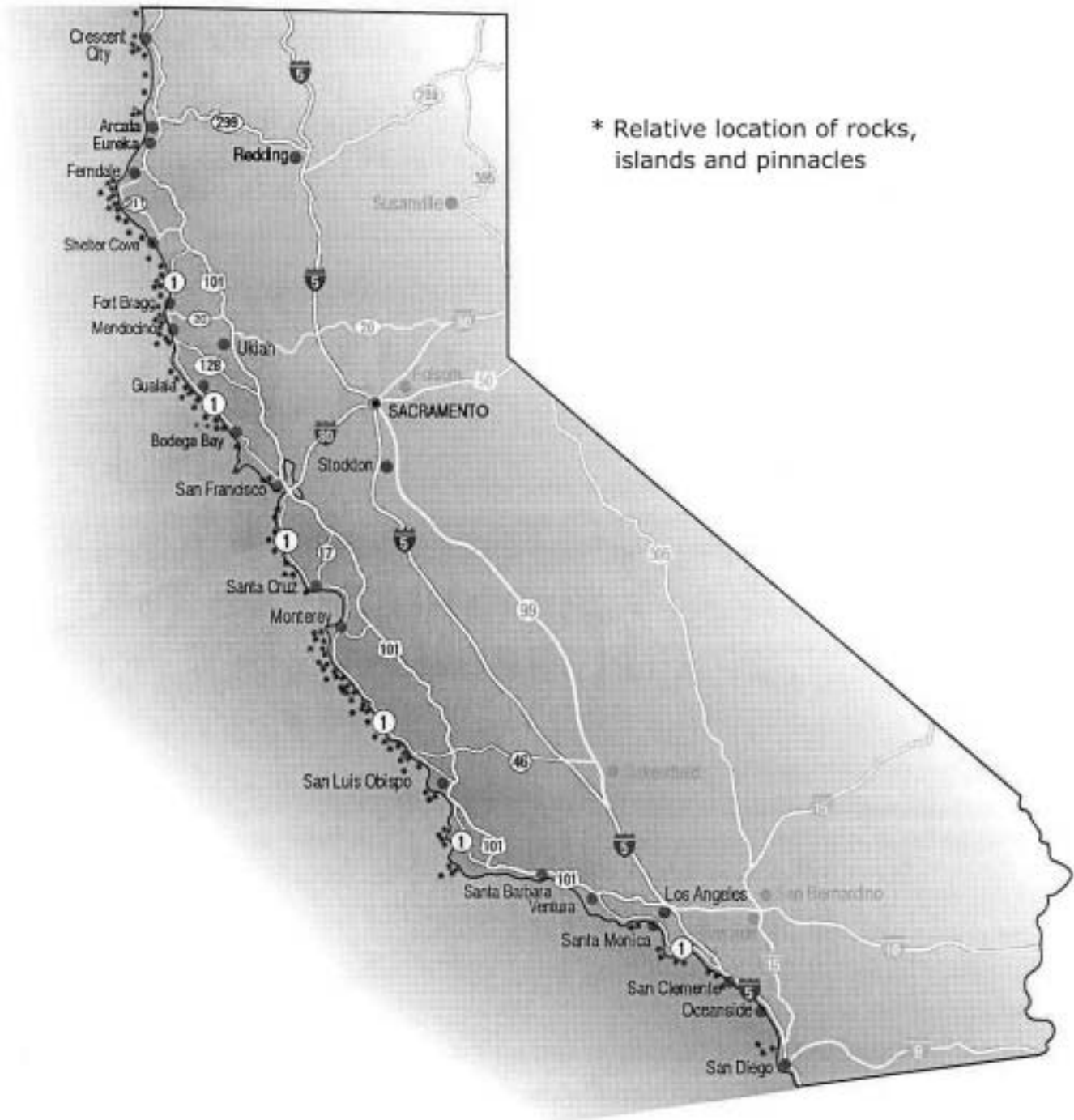


Figure 1

as the BLM's local contact, providing or helping the BLM find a meeting facility and assisting with publicizing the meeting. In most cases, the local host also sent a representative to open the meeting, welcome the BLM and the various attendees, and introduce Rick Hanks, the CCNM Manager. Mr. Hanks facilitated and gave a presentation on the CCNM at each of the eight meetings.

The roster of local hosts demonstrates the variety of potential partners for the CCNM. The hosts included business associations, research facilities, an environmental organization, and a maritime museum. The date, time, location, and local host for each of the eight meetings are listed in Table 1.4-1.

At each of the public scoping meetings, CCNM Manager Rick Hanks gave a short presentation about the BLM and the National Landscape Conservation System, the CCNM, and the planning process for developing the Resource Management Plan (RMP). The attendees were informed that the primary purpose of the initial public scoping meetings was to begin to identify the issues and concerns that the RMP should be addressing. The attendees were asked to identify any additional individuals, organizations, or entities that BLM should contact regarding data, issues, or concerns relevant to CCNM management, as well as any information sources that might be useful in the preparation of the RMP.

Following a brief question and answer period, the attendees were divided into two to four groups, depending on the total number of attendees present at each meeting. Each group had a facilitator and a recorder. Rick Hanks and Mike Rushton, Senior Vice President of Jones & Stokes (the environmental consulting firm contracted to work with BLM on the development of the RMP), served as facilitators for all eight meetings. When additional facilitators were needed, BLM field managers or Jones & Stokes resource specialists filled that role. BLM and Jones & Stokes employees served as recorders. Each group met for at least 30 minutes and every attendee was encouraged to provide input. Each individual comment was recorded on a flip chart. Once the individual group information sessions were completed, the flip charts were brought to the front of the room and each group's comments were summarized for all the attendees to hear. Any additional comments or concerns were heard and recorded at that time.

Attendees were given the opportunity to submit a CCNM comment card that could be left with the staff at the meeting or mailed to the CCNM office by October 25, 2002, the closing date for the CCNM scoping period. A list of attendees and staff present at each public scoping meeting and a brief summary of public comments and concerns from each meeting are provided in Appendix B.

The comments and information recorded on each flip chart from the eight scoping meetings is provided in Appendix B (Sections B.1-B.9 and Table B.10-1).

Table 1.4-1. Date, Time, Location, and Local Host for Each Public Scoping Meeting

Date	Time	Location	Local Host
August 20 (Tue.)	7–9 p.m.	Bodega Bay	Bodega Marine Laboratory, University of California, Davis
August 21 (Wed.)	7–9 p.m.	Elk	Elk Business Association
August 22 (Thu.)	7–9 p.m.	Trinidad	Trinidad Chamber of Commerce
August 27 (Tue.)	7–9 p.m.	San Diego	Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, San Diego
August 28 (Wed.)	7–9 p.m.	Laguna Beach	Surfrider Foundation, Laguna Beach Chapter
August 30 (Fri.)	7–9 p.m.	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara Maritime Museum
September 4 (Wed.)	1–3 p.m.	Monterey	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
September 5 (Thu.)	7–9 p.m.	San Francisco	Golden Gate National Recreation Area, National Park Service (NPS)

Independent Meetings

In addition to the formal public scoping meetings, several independent meetings were held with interested parties to identify issues of importance. A list of attendees and staff present at each independent scoping meeting and a brief summary of comments and concerns from each meeting are provided in Appendix C. The date, time, location, and participating agency at each of the meetings are listed in Table 1.4-2.

Table 1.4-2. Date, Time, Location, and Participating Agency for Each Independent Scoping Meeting

Date	Time	Location	Participating Agency
August 29 (Thu.)	10:00–11:30 a.m.	Camarillo	U.S. Department of the Interior's (USDI's) Minerals Management Service, Pacific Regional Office
August 29 (Thu.)	2:00–3:30 p.m.	Ventura	Channel Islands National Park & NPS
September 5 (Thu.)	3:00–4:00 p.m.	San Francisco	California Marine Protected Areas Working Group & the California Ocean Management Program
September 6 (Fri.)	1:00–3:30 p.m.	San Francisco	California Coastal Commission

Letters of Comment

During the public scoping period, BLM received 25 letters providing input for the RMP and NEPA processes. The subjects addressed in the comment letters are summarized in Appendix B. The individuals, groups, and agencies sending comment letters are listed below.

1. Save Our Shores – Santa Cruz, CA

2. Point Reyes Bird Observatory – Stinson Beach, CA
3. Point Arena Lighthouse Keepers, Inc. – Point Arena, CA
4. Jennifer Cheddar – Pittsburg, PA
5. Shane Austin
6. Judie Benton
7. Jaclyn Sporcic
8. Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors – Santa Cruz, CA
9. Environmental Defense – Oakland, CA
10. The Ocean Conservancy – Santa Cruz, CA
11. The Otter Project – Marina, CA
12. Mendocino Coast Audubon Society – Fort Bragg, CA
13. U.S. Public Interest Research Group – New Orleans, LA
14. Elizabeth Van Dyke – New Orleans, LA
15. William Rogers – New Orleans, LA
16. Marisa Morton – New Orleans, LA
17. Joel Bergner – New Orleans, LA
18. San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors, San Luis Obispo, CA
19. Ursula Jones – Gualala, CA
20. Sierra Club CA/NV Regional Wilderness Committee – San Francisco, CA
21. Scott Shannon – McKinleyville, CA
22. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, San Francisco National Wildlife Refuge Complex – Newark, CA
23. The Marine Mammal Center – Sausalito, CA
24. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Region – Portland, OR
25. Western Environmental Law Center – Taos, NM

1.5 Cooperating Agencies

Agencies Contacted

A total of 46 agencies and tribes have been contacted to determine their interest in being a cooperating agency for the CCNM RMP and NEPA processes: four federal agencies, five California state agencies, 15 California coastal counties, and 22 federally recognized tribes. The invited agencies and tribes are listed below, with the date of correspondence and basis for invitation. Copies of the correspondence requesting cooperating agency status are included in Appendix D.

Federal Agencies

1. **Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS)**, National Sanctuary Program, National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce (William Douros, Superintendent), 10/07/02. Basis: MBNMS is a collaborative partner with CCNM; the sanctuary extends along 20% of the California coast with jurisdiction below the mean high tide line.
2. **Minerals Management Service (MMS)**, Pacific OCS Region, U.S. Department of the Interior (USDI) (Lisle Reed, Regional Director), 10/18/02. Basis: MMS has management responsibility for lands below the CCNM jurisdiction from 3 nautical miles to 12 nautical miles off the California coastline.
3. **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)**, California/Nevada Operations, Pacific Region, USDI (Steve Thompson, CA/NV Ops Manager), 10/18/02. Basis: USFWS has jurisdiction over bird and plant species listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as migratory bird oversight and enforcement responsibilities. In addition, USFWS conducts ongoing monitoring and research activities within the CCNM area related to seabird colonies and oil spill restoration.
4. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries)**, Southwest Regional Office, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce (Rodney McGinnis, Acting Regional Administrator), 10/18/02. Basis: NOAA Fisheries is responsible for both marine fisheries and sea mammal protection and enforcement.

Federally Recognized Tribes

1. **Big Lagoon Rancheria**, Trinidad, CA (Virgil Moorehead, Chair), 11/22/02. Basis: A federally recognized tribe along the California coast.

2. **Coyote Valley Reservation**, Redwood Valley, CA (Pricilla Hunter, Chair), 11/22/02. Basis: A federally recognized tribe with California coastal interest.
3. **Dry Creek Rancheria**, Healdsburg, CA (Elizabeth Elgin DeRouen, Chair), 11/22/02. Basis: A federally recognized tribe with California coastal interest.
4. **Elk Valley Rancheria**, Crescent City, CA (Dale Miller, Chair), 11/22/02. Basis: A federally recognized tribe along the California coast.
5. **Graton Rancheria**, Novato, CA (Greg Sarris, Chair), 11/22/02. Basis: A federally recognized tribe with California coastal interest.
6. **Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation**, Hoopa, CA (Clifford Lyle Marshall, Chair), 11/22/02. Basis: A federally recognized tribe with California coastal interest.
7. **Hopland Reservation**, Hopland, CA (Sandra Sigala, Chair), 11/22/02. Basis: A federally recognized tribe with California coastal interest.
8. **Karuk Tribe of California**, Happy Camp, CA (Alvus Johnson, Chair), 11/22/02. Basis: A federally recognized tribe with California coastal interest.
9. **Laytonville Rancheria**, Laytonville, CA (Vernon Wilson, Chair), 11/22/02. Basis: A federally recognized tribe with California coastal interest.
10. **Lytton Rancheria**, Santa Rosa, CA (Margie Mejia, Chair), 11/22/02. Basis: A federally recognized tribe with California coastal interest.
11. **Manchester_Point Arena Rancheria**, Point Arena, CA (Jose Oropeza, Chair), 11/22/02. Basis: A federally recognized tribe along the California coast.
12. **Pinoleville Reservation**, Ukiah, CA (Leona Williams, Chair), 11/22/02. Basis: A federally recognized tribe with California coastal interest.
13. **Redwood Valley Reservation**, redwood Valley, CA (Elizabeth Hansen, Chair), 11/22/02. Basis: A federally recognized tribe with California coastal interest.
14. **Resighini Rancheria**, Klamath, CA (William Scott, Chair), 11/22/02. Basis: A federally recognized tribe with California coastal interest.
15. **Rohnerville Rancheria**, Loleta, CA (James Moon, Jr., Chair), 11/22/02. Basis: A federally recognized tribe along the California coast.

16. **Round Valley Reservation**, Covelo, CA (John Azbill, President), 11/22/02.
Basis: A federally recognized tribe with California coastal interest.
17. **Sherwood Valley Reservation**, Willits, CA (Allen Wright, Chair), 11/22/02.
Basis: A federally recognized tribe with California coastal interest.
18. **Smith River Rancheria**, Smith River, CA (Kara Miller, Chair), 11/22/02.
Basis: A federally recognized tribe along the California coast.
19. **Stewarts Point Rancheria**, Santa Rosa, CA (Lester Pinola, Chair), 11/22/02.
Basis: A federally recognized tribe along the California coast.
20. **Table Bluff Rancheria**, Loleta, CA (Cheryl Seidner, Chair), 11/22/02.
Basis: A federally recognized tribe along the California coast.
21. **Trinidad Rancheria**, Trinidad, CA (Carol Ervin, Chair), 11/22/02. Basis:
A federally recognized tribe along the California coast.
22. **Yurok Indian Reservation**, Klamath, CA (Sue Masten, Chair), 11/22/02.
Basis: A federally recognized tribe with California coastal interest.

State Agencies

1. **California Department of Fish and Game (DFG)**, State of California Resources Agency (Robert Hight, Director), 10/01/02. Basis: DFG is one of the two California state agencies that serve as “core managing partners” with BLM in managing the CCNM. DFG is responsible for: the enforcement of state fish and game laws; managing California’s diverse fish, wildlife, and plant resources, and the habitats upon which they depend for their ecological values and for their use and enjoyment by the public, including California’s marine ecosystem; and managing California’s oil spill prevention and response program.
2. **California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR)**, State of California Resources Agency (Ruth Coleman, Acting Director), 10/01/02. Basis: CDPR is one of the two California state agencies that serve as “core managing partners” with BLM in managing the CCNM. CDPR administers 25% of the California coast; a large portion of the CCNM is directly associated with California State Park System units. CDPR has the mission to provide for the health, inspiration, and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state’s extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.
3. **California State Lands Commission (SLC)**, State of California Resources Agency (Paul Thayer, Executive Officer), 10/18/02. Basis: SLC has management responsibility for lands below the CCNM jurisdiction from below mean high tide line to 3 nautical miles off the California coastline.

4. **California Coastal Commission (CCC)**, State of California Resources Agency (Peter Douglas, Executive Director), 10/18/02. Basis: CCC's primary mission is to plan for and regulate land and water uses in the coastal zone consistent with the policies of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA). This mission includes handling the federal Consistency Program that assures that federal activities, permits, and funding approvals are conducted in a manner consistent with the state's coastal program.
5. **California State Coastal Conservancy (CSCC)**, State of California Resources Agency (Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer), 10/18/02. Basis: CSCC is a state agency that uses entrepreneurial techniques to work in partnership with others to preserve, improve, and restore public access and natural resources along the California coast. The California Legislature created CSCC as a unique entity with flexible powers to serve as an intermediary among government, citizens, and the private sector in recognition that creative approaches would be needed to preserve California's coast for future generations. CSCC's non-regulatory, problem-solving approach complements CCC's work.

California Coastal Counties

1. **Del Norte**, Crescent City, CA (Charles Blackburn, Board of Supervisors Chair), 09/25/02. Basis: One of the 15 California coastal counties.
2. **Humboldt**, Eureka, CA (Bonnie Neely, Board of Supervisors Chair), 09/25/02. Basis: One of the 15 California coastal counties.
3. **Mendocino**, Ukiah, CA (J. David Colfax, Board of Supervisors Chairman), 09/25/02. Basis: One of the 15 California coastal counties.
4. **Sonoma**, Santa Rosa, CA (Mike Kerns, Board of Supervisors Chairman), 09/25/02. Basis: One of the 15 California coastal counties.
5. **Marin**, San Rafael, CA (Cynthia Murrar, Board of Supervisors President), 09/25/02. Basis: One of the 15 California coastal counties.
6. **San Francisco (City & County)**, San Francisco, CA (Tom Ammiano, Board of Supervisors President), 09/25/02. Basis: One of the 15 California coastal counties.
7. **San Mateo**, Redwood City, CA (Jerry Hill, Board of Supervisors President), 09/25/02. Basis: One of the 15 California coastal counties.
8. **Santa Cruz**, Santa Cruz, CA (Jan Brautz, Board of Supervisors Chairperson), 09/25/02. Basis: One of the 15 California coastal counties.
9. **Monterey**, Salinas, CA (Dave Potter, Board of Supervisors Chair), 09/25/02. Basis: One of the 15 California coastal counties.

10. **San Luis Obispo**, San Luis Obispo, CA (Shirley Bianchi, Board of Supervisors Chairperson), 09/25/02. Basis: One of the 15 California coastal counties.
11. **Santa Barbara**, Santa Barbara, CA (Gail Marshall, Board of Supervisors Chair), 09/25/02. Basis: One of the 15 California coastal counties.
12. **Ventura**, Ventura, CA (John Flynn, Board of Supervisors Chair), 09/25/02. Basis: One of the 15 California coastal counties.
13. **Los Angeles**, Los Angeles, CA (Zev Yaroslavsky, Board of Supervisors Chairman), 09/25/02. Basis: One of the 15 California coastal counties.
14. **Orange**, Santa Ana, CA (Cynthia Coad, Board of Supervisors Chair), 09/25/02. Basis: One of the 15 California coastal counties.
15. **San Diego**, San Diego, CA (Ron Roberts, Board of Supervisors Chairman), 09/25/02. Basis: One of the 15 California coastal counties.

Agencies Requesting Cooperating Agency Status

Of the 46 agencies, counties, and tribes invited to request cooperating agency status, the BLM received responses from three California state agencies, six California coastal counties, and one federally recognized tribe by the close of the scoping period. Of these 10 responses, eight requested or stated that they were interested in cooperating agency status. The eight entities requesting cooperating agency status listed below (see above for “basis”).

1. California Department of Parks and Recreation
2. California Department of Fish and Game
3. California State Lands Commission (requested “limited” status)
4. San Luis Obispo County
5. Humboldt County
6. Del Norte County
7. Santa Cruz County
8. Trinidad Rancheria

An individual Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been sent to each of the eight entities requesting cooperating agency status. To date, no MOU has been completed. A final MOU with the Trinidad Rancheria is now in the signature process and a BLM-signed MOU has been sent to DFG for final review

and signature. None of the four interested counties has responded to the proposed MOU sent to it.

Two agencies contacted BLM with an interest in cooperating agency status after the scoping period had closed. Both the U.S. Air Force and the National Park Service have shown interest, so their inquiries are being pursued by BLM staff.

1.6 Collaboration with Tribes

BLM contact with federally recognized tribes is discussed above. In addition to contacting these federally recognized groups, BLM forwarded letters to a broader range of Native American groups to solicit information on traditional cultural properties along the coast. The list of groups contacted and the letter requesting information are included in Appendix E.